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February 22nd, 2000

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board Office of the Secretary Case Control Unit Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Sir,

The Quebec Port Authority is a crown agent that manage the port facilities in Quebec city area. The port is offering a direct access to railroad lines: the Canadian Pacific and also the Canadian National. Our tenants are major users of rail services in the United States and Canada.

We encourage the Surface Transportation Board to focus on whether the proposed CN-BNSF combination is good for shippers, not on hypothetical downstream effects. The CN-BNSF combination should be judged on its merits and if other carriers propose mergers, then these cases ought to be evaluated on their merits.

Sincerely,

Alexis Ségal

Vice-president Marketing

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